

4/22/02

PA

1/2/A

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Friedrich Silbereisen et al.

Serial No.:

Filed:

For: **FIXING ELEMENT FOR FIXING CORRUGATED TUBES  
TO A SUPPORT PART**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box PCT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of this application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

Please delete the abstract at the end of the application and replace it with the following new abstract:

**Abstract**

The invention relates to a fixing element for fixing a corrugated tube to a support part. The fixing element is connectable to the support part by a leg and includes engaging members that engage undercuts formed in the corrugated tube. The fixing element includes a leg, a guiding rail and a slide. The slide is insertable into the guiding rail and has a retainer lock that tapers in the direction of insertion. Engaging edges that are symmetrically arranged toward each other are formed on a side wall of the guiding rail and on the retainer lock surface opposite the wall. The engaging edges engage undercuts on the corrugated tube. The distance between the